



VCR-8

In re application of : JOHN THOMAS MATTHEW WRIGHT

Serial No. :

2/Prior Art

Filed :

Group No.:

For : VALVE HOLDER FOR TRICUSPID HEART VALVE

THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRIOR ART STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 + 1.98

This Prior Art Statement is submitted in compliance with the Rule 56 "Duty of Candor and Good Faith" to disclose information which a reasonable Examiner would be likely to consider important in deciding whether to allow this application to issue as a patent. In the opinion of the undersigned attorney [after consultation with inventor(s) and any other individuals who have been substantively involved in the preparation of the application] the patents, publications or other information listed below constitute the closest prior art of which the undersigned is aware. A concise explanation of the relevance of each prior art item listed is given, and a copy of each said item is appended hereto. The list of prior art is as follows:

U.S. 3,570,014 - discloses a typical tricuspid porcine heart valve mounted in a stent.

Package Insert No. 106259-2, Rev. B., American Edwards Laboratories, "Instructions For Use of the Handle/Holder Assembly For the Carpentier-Edwards® Mitral Bioprosthetic", - relates to a prior art valve holder. Does not provide for tensioning the retention threads in order to draw the tips of the commissure support struts together.

Respectively submitted,

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PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANTS

Effective immediately, applicants are encouraged to use new form PTO-1449, "List of Prior Art Cited By Applicant". When preparing a prior art statement under 37 CFR 1.97-1.99, A copy of the form is included herewith from which suitable reproductions can be made. This form, which will enable applicants to provide the PTO with a uniform listing of prior art citations, supersedes form PTO-3.72.

While the filing of prior art statements is voluntary, the procedure is governed by the guidelines of Section 609 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure and 37 CFR 1.97 through 1.99. To be considered a proper prior art statement, form PTO-1449 shall be accompanied by an explanation of relevance of each listed item, a copy of each listed patent or publication or other item of information and a translation of the pertinent portions of foreign documents (if an existing translation is readily available to the applicant), and should be submitted in a timely manner as set out in MPEP Sec. 609.

Examiners will consider all prior art citations submitted in conformance with 37 CFR 1.98 and MPEP Sec. 609 and place their initials adjacent the citations in the boxes provided on the form. Examiners will also initial citations not in conformance with the guidelines which may have been considered. A reference may be considered by the examiner for any reason whether or not the citation is in full conformance with the guidelines. A line will be drawn through a citation if it is not in conformance with the guidelines and has not been considered. A copy of the submitted form, as reviewed by the examiner, will be returned to the applicant with the next communication. The original of the form will be entered into the application file.

Each citation initialed by the examiner will be printed on the issued patent in the same manner as prior art cited by the examiner on form PTO-892.

The reference designations "AA", "AB", etc. (referring to Applicant's reference A, Applicant's reference B, etc.) will be used by the examiner in the same manner as examiner's reference designations "A", "B", "C", etc. on Office Action Form PTO-1142.

August 15, 1980

William Feldman
Deputy Assistant Commissioner
for Patents

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